

S. 2613

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2613, a bill to provide for climate change planning, mitigation, adaptation, and resilience in the United States Territories and Freely Associated States, and for other purposes.

S. 2675

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2675, a bill to amend the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to increase appropriations to Restaurant Revitalization Fund, and for other purposes.

S. 2937

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2937, a bill to authorize humanitarian assistance and civil society support, promote democracy and human rights, and impose targeted sanctions with respect to human rights abuses in Burma, and for other purposes.

S. 3412

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3412, a bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds to enforce the rule submitted by the Department of Health and Human Services relating to COVID-19 vaccine and mask requirements for Head Start programs.

S. 3448

At the request of Mr. WARNOCK, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 3448, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the Freedom Riders, collectively, in recognition of their unique contribution to Civil Rights, which inspired a revolutionary movement for equality in interstate travel.

S. 3508

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a co-

sponsor of S. 3508, a bill to posthumously award a congressional gold medal to Constance Baker Motley.

S. 3541

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3541, a bill to improve health care and services for veterans exposed to toxic substances, and for other purposes.

S. 3571

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) and the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 3571, a bill to promote remediation of abandoned hardrock mines, and for other purposes.

S. 3600

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSOFF) were added as cosponsors of S. 3600, a bill to improve the cybersecurity of the Federal Government, and for other purposes.

S. 3606

At the request of Mr. TUBERVILLE, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) were added as cosponsors of S. 3606, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to eliminate the requirement to specify an effective period of transfer of Post-9/11 educational assistance to a dependent, and for other purposes.

S. 3623

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) were added as cosponsors of S. 3623, a bill to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act of 1994, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 183

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 183, a resolution condemning the Government of Iran's state-sponsored persecution of its Baha'i minority and its continued violation of the International Covenants on Human Rights.

S. RES. 499

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 499, a resolution celebrating 100 years of diplomatic relations between the United States and the Baltic States.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 3638. A bill to provide lawful permanent resident status for certain advanced STEM degree holders, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3638

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Keep STEM Talent Act of 2022”.

SEC. 2. LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS FOR CERTAIN ADVANCED STEM DEGREE HOLDERS.

(a) ALIENS NOT SUBJECT TO DIRECT NUMERICAL LIMITATIONS.—Section 201(b)(1) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1151(b)(1)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(F)(i) Aliens who—

“(I) have earned a degree in a STEM field at the master’s level or higher while physically present in the United States from a United States institution of higher education (as defined in section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a))) accredited by an accrediting entity recognized by the Department of Education; “(II) have an offer of employment from, or are employed by, a United States employer in a field related to such degree at a rate of pay that is higher than the median wage level for the occupational classification in the area of employment, as determined by the Secretary of Labor; and

“(III) are admissible pursuant to an approved labor certification under section 212(a)(5)(A)(i).

“(ii) In this subparagraph, the term ‘STEM field’ means a field of science, technology, engineering, or mathematics described in the most recent version of the Classification of Instructional Programs of the Department of Education taxonomy under the summary group of—

“(I) computer and information sciences and support services; “(II) engineering; “(III) mathematics and statistics; “(IV) biological and biomedical sciences; “(V) physical sciences; “(VI) agriculture sciences; or “(VII) natural resources and conservation sciences.”.

(b) PROCEDURE FOR GRANTING IMMIGRATION STATUS.—Section 204(a)(1)(F) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1154(a)(1)(F)) is amended—

(1) by striking “203(b)(2)” and all that follows through “Attorney General”; and

(2) by inserting “203(b)(2), 203(b)(3), or 201(b)(1)(F) may file a petition with the Secretary of Homeland Security”.

(c) DUAL INTENT FOR F NONIMMIGRANTS SEEKING ADVANCED STEM DEGREES AT UNITED STATES INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—Notwithstanding sections 101(a)(15)(F)(i) and 214(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(F)(i), 1184(b)), an alien who is a bona fide student admitted to a program in

a STEM field (as defined in section 201(b)(1)(F)(ii)) for a degree at the master's level or higher at a United States institution of higher education (as defined in section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a))) accredited by an accrediting entity recognized by the Department of Education may obtain a student visa or extend or change nonimmigrant status to pursue such degree even if such alien intends to seek lawful permanent resident status in the United States.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 510—RECOGNIZING JANUARY 25, 2022, AS “NATIONAL POLL WORKER RECRUITMENT DAY”

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. BLUNT, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. HAGERTY, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KELLY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 510

Resolved, That the Senate—

- (1) recognizes January 25, 2022, as “National Poll Worker Recruitment Day”;
- (2) recognizes the need for, and appreciation of, the service of poll workers; and
- (3) encourages eligible people to help America vote in the 2022 elections by serving as poll workers.

SENATE RESOLUTION 511—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT ESTABLISHING A REGIONAL NUCLEAR FUEL BANK WOULD ASSIST INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO AVOID A DESTABILIZING ARMS RACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND WOULD PROMOTE THE PEACEFUL USE OF NUCLEAR POWER

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 511

Whereas the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), on October 17, 2019, established and began operating a Low Enriched Uranium (LEU) Bank in Oskemen, Kazakhstan;

Whereas the IAEA LEU Bank currently has physical stock of 90 metric tons of low enriched uranium hexafluoride suitable to make fuel for nuclear power reactors worldwide;

Whereas the IAEA Bank mission is to ensure member states of the IAEA are able to obtain fuel for their reactors if there is a disruption in their existing fuel supply arrangements and LEU cannot be obtained by any other means;

Whereas a member state of the IAEA who wants to buy LEU from the fuel Bank must be in compliance with all of their nuclear safeguard agreements and not under investigation by the IAEA Board of Governors;

Whereas the establishment and operation of the IAEA LEU Bank is fully funded by voluntary contributions;

Whereas these voluntary contributions have come from the United States, the European Union, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), and non-government actors such as the Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI);

Whereas, in April 2009, President of Iran Mahmoud Ahmadinejad welcomed the then proposal to set up a global nuclear fuel repository, under strict international controls;

Whereas, in an April 2005 statement at the IAEA, the Islamic Republic of Iran said it will only pursue nuclear activities in the peaceful domain, and the Leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran Ayatollah Ali Khamenei had issued a fatwa that the production, stockpiling, and use of nuclear weapons are forbidden under Islam and that the Islamic Republic of Iran shall never acquire these weapons;

Whereas the provision of LEU fuel enables a state to forgo domestic uranium enrichment and reprocessing for commercial nuclear reactors;

Whereas the UAE has successfully developed commercial nuclear power without a domestic capability to enrich uranium or reprocess spent fuel;

Whereas many states in the Middle East are seeking to establish commercial nuclear power reactors to supply power to their electrical grid;

Whereas the development of uranium enrichment and reprocessing capabilities increases the proliferation risk associated with nuclear technology, materials, and weapons; and

Whereas Iran's nuclear program is leading other Middle East states to consider how to match Iran's enrichment capabilities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the establishment of a regional nuclear fuel bank, or a rules modification and expansion of the existing LEU Bank, in coordination with other international actors, should be part of a comprehensive plan for confronting nuclear nonproliferation in the Middle East;

(2) the United States should implement a policy that guarantees that any Middle East state that forgoes domestic uranium enrichment and reprocessing will be able to purchase fuel for their commercial nuclear reactors from an international nuclear fuel bank;

(3) in order to expand the existing IAEA LEU Bank or establish a new regional nuclear fuel bank, the United States should provide technical experience and funds and should encourage others to make financial donations to such bank;

(4) the United States should seek bilateral and multilateral nuclear cooperation agreements with various Middle Eastern states, including Iran, pursuant to section 123 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2153) (“123 agreements”) that include the adoption of IAEA Additional Protocols for verification of nuclear safeguards that include a commitment by states to forgo domestic uranium enrichment and reprocessing of spent fuel;

(5) if Iran enters into and implements a nuclear agreement in which it forgoes domestic uranium enrichment and reprocessing of spent fuel, the United States should commit to and provide sanctions relief beyond that agreed to in the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) signed at Vienna on July 14, 2015, by Iran and by France, Germany, the Russian Federation, the People's Republic of China, the European Union, the United Kingdom, and the United States;

(6) any such sanctions relief should include the termination of certain United States

“primary” sanctions, as appropriate, but other United States sanctions should remain in place until Iran verifiably ceases its malign activity, including its support for terrorism, its human rights abuses, its hostage-taking, and its destabilizing activities in the region, and refrains from resuming such activities; and

(7) any international agreement limiting Iran's nuclear program and providing sanctions relief to which the United States is a signatory should be submitted to the Senate for its advice and consent to ratification pursuant to Article II of the Constitution.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4924. Mr. DURBIN (for Mr. BLUMENTHAL) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 467, recognizing the contributions made by the 305-meter radio telescope at the Arecibo Observatory.

SA 4925. Mr. DURBIN (for Mr. BLUMENTHAL) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 467, supra.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 4924. Mr. DURBIN (for Mr. BLUMENTHAL) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 467, recognizing the contributions made by the 305-meter radio telescope at the Arecibo Observatory; as follows:

On page 4, line 6, insert “in consultation with” before “the National Aeronautics”.

SA 4925. Mr. DURBIN (for Mr. BLUMENTHAL) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 467, recognizing the contributions made by the 305-meter radio telescope at the Arecibo Observatory; as follows:

In the preamble, in the sixth whereas clause, strike “an essential” and insert “a”.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I have 6 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 10, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 10, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 10, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.